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## GrazingInfo Aims

To help improve soils, pastures and crops, make animals healthier, happier and more productive, make farming easier and more pleasurable, using education and natural methods where possible, and to help people enjoy life with maximum profits.

New Zealand has a deficiency of many minerals, some first discovered over a hundred years ago not long after Europeans arrived, because they didn't eat as much sea foods as the locals so suffered.

GrazingInfo doesn't sell or get commission on any products and doesn't and can't claim to solve all problems because of the variety of conditions and users.

The suggestions are for informational purposes. None of the information is to be taken as complete advice. Always consult a qualified expert in the topic concerned.

This book is not a "100% Organic" book, but is inclined to natural, low cost and sound ecological farming and recommends the necessary methods when 100% organic ones fail rather than having animals suffer or farmers losing money because of animal ill-health.

Some of the chapters and spreadsheets may not apply to your type of farming, but some is likely to, so scroll down looking at the headings to find the information that will help you, then save it to your computer.

An eBook is the modern way to provide, find and compile in your computer, the information you need.

<http://www.grazinginfo.com> includes my agricultural college learnings in 1947/8 and farming since then, and consulting in many countries since 1960 with the aim of helping farmers worldwide to be more profitable and to farm ecologically and sustainably. Don't feel harassed by those two words that we hear so often now. Good controlled grazing farmers are doing what developed the prairies, veld and grass areas around the world over millions of years before man came and wrecked some. Good New Zealand farmers apply methods for the benefit of their farms, themselves, their families, their country and the world.

You might ask, "How the world?" Thousands of farmers in many countries have changed from high cost mechanised confinement farming to the low cost New Zealand grazing systems.

As well as the whole GrazingInfo eBook, read the Fieldays History by Ray Fowke, the second Past Fieldays Manager and Visit [www.fieldayshistory.co.nz](http://www.fieldayshistory.co.nz) to see what made New Zealand's largest annual event, and our biggest industry, and the highest overseas exchange earner.

Also see 'Events' in [www.grazinginfo.com](http://www.grazinginfo.com) to learn how to attend and to enjoy its comforts without getting lost or losing your car in the massive parking areas.

Obviously, snow covered areas can't get the urine and manure back into the soil as quickly as in areas where they graze all year, but methods to reduce animal manure and speed up its decomposition are suggested in Soils > Earthworms and other chapters.

My wife, Auriel and I started writing articles in the 1980s and have written 350 and are still doing so. Printing this book which is 120 chapters and more coming, hundreds of photos and 50 spreadsheets, would have been too large to publish in print, because farming books don't sell in large numbers. With the colour photos, would have to sell for hundreds of dollars each.

Please see Contents first and read 'About GrazingInfo' then Testimonials and the other 'Free Items' then if you'd like to join, please click 'Join Here'. The cost is NZ\$30 or about US\$24 and is tax deductible. There is no GST or Sales Tax. The \$30 covers the cost of the web site and updating chapters with nothing over, but I enjoy it.

Some farmers read only the free information available in web sites, much of which is commercial so is biased advertising and/or outdated. We aim for the best independent and accurate information available and update it as new information evolves. Calcium is up to version 5.5 which means it has been improved 55 times.

You may quote from GrazingInfo with acknowledgments please, but don't sell information from it.

I have quoted some people and, when necessary to clarify their statements, may add information in square brackets [ ].

There are no farming advertisements or paid promotion in [www.grazinginfo.com](http://www.grazinginfo.com). We have declined commissions on pasture analyses and fertilisers which we asked be given to the buyers. Many consultants

receive commissions of \$12 per tonne of fertiliser from some companies, so their fertilising advice is not always the best for the farmer, and advice from fertiliser companies favours phosphate and potassium at over \$1,000 per tonne. Ask consultants if they receive commissions. When I start consulting for farmers who have used these, P and K are mostly much too high and calcium too low. Out of 250 clients over 30 years, only two had optimum calcium levels and almost all had potassium so high that grasses were hard and unpalatable with animal health adversely affected. Boron that few know about and makes calcium available and reduces milk fever, is always very low. Maize (corn) cobs not filling to the tip and milk fever cows not recovering are mostly from low boron. See Elements > Boron.

### **Compile notes**

Documents can be downloaded to your computer so you can then search, find, copy and save items, of the parts you want, easily and file them in your GrazingInfo folder.

Chapters are updated from time to time. The dates show when.

You can ask questions through [support@grazinginfo.com](mailto:support@grazinginfo.com)

I get many and won't know you, so please include your name, location and very brief farm details (dairy, beef, etc.) each time you ask questions so that we can give a more useful answer.

If you would like information on a topic not yet written, please ask by emailing [support@grazinginfo.com](mailto:support@grazinginfo.com) and we'll add it as soon as possible.

### **Information**

GrazingInfo is being read in many countries so we aim to help all, but obviously it is impossible to always give precise suggestions regarding all aspects, such as brands of fertilisers, pasture varieties, minerals, etc., for all countries.

The information applies to most grazing animals. Much refers to dairy cows, because dairy farmers in most countries have led the field in profiting from intensive controlled grazing. However, the grazing principles are the same for most animals. Most information comes from temperate pastures in New Zealand. Again, many principles are the same, as has been proved by many in North America, Europe, Africa and Japan using the information to their advantage. So, when reading, look at how to apply the information to your conditions and animals.

If you need New Zealand addresses, full names or more information, Google the New Zealand Telephone Directory [www.whitepages.co.nz](http://www.whitepages.co.nz) and/or [www.yellowpages.co.nz](http://www.yellowpages.co.nz)

For farm items and manufacturers, see The New Zealand Agricultural Fielddays at - <http://www.fielddays.co.nz/>

If a New Zealand location map is required go to <http://maps.yellowpages.co.nz/> and enter the street number, name and town or area. If the complete address with area code is required click on the A. To enlarge the map, double click near to the A.

Click Satellite for photos of the addresses.

New Zealand Postal Codes must be used on addresses to NZ. If necessary they can be found at - <http://www.nzpost.co.nz/Cultures/en-NZ/OnlineTools/PostCodeFinder/>

### **Information applies in most countries**

I first went to Japan in 1979 and did presentations at on-farm field days and evening seminars organised by Yutaka Miyawaki of Surge Miyawaki Co Ltd, the Gallagher importer distributor. In Hokkaido, the northern island of Japan, that is covered in snow for months, I helped two farmers both of whom won the Emperor's most profitable dairy farmer awards - thanks to doing the right things around controlled grazing and thanks to the continuing support by Mr Miyawaki. Other Japanese farmers (Mr Masato Imai and Mr Yuji Yoshikawa) whom I helped, have written about how they've profited and expanded substantially by using our grazing and fertilising techniques.

Some New Zealanders have suggested that I am giving away NZ secrets which will be to the disadvantage of NZ, but when Northern Hemisphere farmers change from confinement to grazing their animal production and costs decrease, but they make more profit, despite producing less, so they then don't need subsidies and don't overproduce and create surpluses.

See 'Testimonials' for a few of the 50 odd appreciations. More are in Free Blog.

## **Spreadsheets**

The package of 50 farming spreadsheets can save farmers time and increase their efficiency and profits. The whole package costs NZ\$200 (about US\$150) which, after tax deductions, is less. See the three Free Spreadsheets in Free Items as examples.